



TUESDAY EVENING, APRIL 5, 1904.

THE LAUNCHING of the battleship Virginia at Newport News today carried many persons from different parts of the United States to that young but vigorous city of the Old Dominion, and those especially of this commonwealth rejoiced in the fact that ships of the highest class, both of the naval and mercantile type, are being constructed in this State. The Virginia is one of five vessels in process of construction at different places on the Atlantic seaboard, and she is the first to have glided into her element. In other words the Newport News yard has outstripped all others in the celerity of its work. Forty-three years ago an old sloop of war which had been partially destroyed by fire by the burning of the Gosport navy yard, was floated, razed, encased with railroad iron and in shape made to resemble antique pictures of Noah's ark. It was christened "Virginia," and one spring day it left Elizabeth river. In a few hours the cumbersome and unwieldy craft had almost cleared Hampton Roads of the federal men-of-war lying therein. This vessel was the nucleus of the modern navies of the world, and it was constructed or, more properly reconstructed, within sight of the spot upon which one of the latest and most powerful vessels and bearing the same name was launched today. This part of Virginia, it seems, is the alpha and omega of the modern ironclad.

SECOND in importance only to the decision against the Northern Securities Company was the action of the Supreme Court yesterday sustaining the contention of the Interstate Commerce Commission, that the coal roads must produce their secret agreements and contracts if they are to prove that complaint against them is not justified. The case was that of the Interstate Commerce Commission vs. Baird. In the decision handed down it is substantially determined that where it is alleged railroads or other corporations have entered into secret agreements to restrain trade these contracts must be submitted to the courts. The action reverses the decision of the New York Circuit Court, and in the new trial of the case against the coal roads, which must now follow, directs that the contracts withheld from the court in the former proceedings must be produced for examination. This victory for the Interstate Commerce Commission is all-important, not only because of its direct effect upon the coal combine, but because of its probable effect upon all other combinations suspected of restraining interstate commerce.

THAT the race question is in reality national and not sectional has been sufficiently illustrated by recent lynchings events north of Mason and Dixon's line. Dr. W. P. Thirkield, of Cincinnati, the corresponding secretary of the Freedman's Aid Society and Southern Education Society, points out that in eleven northern States, from Maine to Pennsylvania, the increase in colored population has been double that of white in the past ten years. He says that temptation to crime among the negroes of the north is all the greater because being barred from unions they are compelled to rely on domestic service and odd jobs.

THE BALTIMORE CONFERENCE, which began its sessions in this city last Wednesday, adjourned today to meet next year in Winchester. The members of the conference have met, as they always have in Alexandria, a hearty Virginia welcome, and during the time they have mingled with us they have seemingly enjoyed their visit. The gentlemen composing this branch of the church militant are representative in scholarly attainments and spirituality. Alexandria wishes them God-speed in all their works and aims.

A NEW ORLEANS judge, in consigning a woman to the leper camp at Iberville, decided that the woman's infant, who was not yet afflicted with the disease, should go with its mother, there to remain for life. The board of health physician wished to prevent this, but could not give positive assurance that the child would escape the malady if it were kept away from the camp. Now should the child develop leprosy there will still be lacking the positive proof that the malady was contracted in the camp.

ON MONDAY of last week by the decisive majority of 316 to 269, the French Chamber of Deputies passed the government's bill to suppress all forms of teaching by the religious orders. The law passed in 1901 suppressed the unauthorized teaching orders which had gone out without legal sanction. This new law makes no distinction between authorized and unauthorized orders. Its effect is to virtually substitute the system of State schools for those heretofore conducted under the wing of the church.

THE absurdity of extravagance in limited editions is reached by a set of Dickens in 130 volumes which J. P. Morgan, the Duke of Westminster and eight other collectors have ordered from the University Press, at Cambridge, for \$1,300,000. For the first time in four hundred years genuine parchment will be used in the body of the books. The pages will be decorated by French and Italian artists.

From Washington.

[Correspondence of the Alexandria Gazette.] In response to a resolution of the House calling on the Civil Service Commission, to transmit the list of those who were appointed under suspensions of the civil service rules since March 4, 1885, the commission today submitted the list in question. There were but three cases of individual suspension under President McKinley; sixty under Roosevelt. Two of the three suspensions authorized by President McKinley, are those of James N. Tyner, assistant general for the Postoffice Department, and Harrison J. Barrett, law clerk in the same department, both now under indictment in connection with the post-office scandal.

Mr. Maynard was the only Virginia member of Congress who attended the launching of the Virginia at Newport News today. Both the Senators and other Representatives from the State were detained here on business. It is said at the Navy Department that the Virginia and her class represent the most perfect fighting machines ever devised for the United States navy. The Virginia is so constructed that she will be a good match for any battleship or armored cruiser in the world. The Comptroller of the Currency has appointed National Bank Examiner Myron R. Sturtevant receiver of the Capital National Bank, Guthrie, Oklahoma, upon information received from the president of the bank, Charles E. Billingsley, that the bank had closed its doors.

The suffrage case, that involving the validity of the new Virginia constitution, was again before the U. S. Supreme Court today, coming over from yesterday, when the arguments were begun by Capt. J. S. Wise, who is against the State. Attorney-General Anderson replied to Capt. Wise and was speaking at 1 o'clock. Mr. Frank W. Christian will also speak today for the State. James Hayes, colored, who is associated with Capt. Wise, will also speak. The captain yesterday introduced his colleague to the court.

The District Court of Appeals today overruled the demurrer to the indictment of James N. Tyner, former Attorney General for the Postoffice Department, and Harrison J. Barrett, his nephew and assistant.

The President today sent to the Senate the following nominations: To be Consul George E. Anderson, of Illinois, at Hang Chow, China. To be a member of the Mississippi river Commission, Homer P. Ritter, of Ohio.

Among those at the Capital today was Judge R. T. W. Duke, of Charlottesville, Va.

News of the Day.

Receivers yesterday appointed by Judge Sharp for the Monumental Mutual Life Insurance Company of Baltimore.

The nail department of the American Steel and Wire Company's plant at Rankin, near Pittsburgh, was burned down yesterday, causing a loss of \$175,000.

Taylor & Levering, the well-known firm of coffee jobbers and importers, of Baltimore, will go out of business. The liquidation of the concern is now in progress.

The United States Supreme Court yesterday sustained the law of Maryland requiring persons coming into that State to reside to register to indicate an intention of becoming a citizen of Maryland.

Mrs. W. F. Lippitt, widow of Dr. William Fontaine Lippitt, of Charles Town, W. Va., and daughter of the late Thomas Perry of Cumberland, Md., died in Washington, of pneumonia on Saturday.

Emily Phillips Cassatt was granted an absolute divorce from Capt. Edward Buchanan Cassatt, eldest son of A. J. Cassatt, in Philadelphia, yesterday. The grounds for the decree are not known. The papers in the case have been impounded, the names of the parties were kept off the usual list and even the final decree was kept quiet.

The validity of the marriage of Charles W. Morse and Mrs. Clemence C. Dodge was established yesterday by a decision of Justice Truax in the Supreme Court in New York on the application of Mr. Morse for an annulment of the decree setting aside his marriage to Mrs. Dodge. Justice Truax says: "The evidence shows clearly that the defendant, Charles S. Dodge, authorized Mortimer A. Ruger to appear for him in this action. Motion to set aside the order vacating and setting aside the judgment herein is granted."

The Maryland legislature ended its session last night. The Haman oyster bill was passed. The Haman oyster bill for leasing oyster beds of Chesapeake bay for planting was passed with amendments that partially nullified its purpose. The matter of the proposed disfranchisement of negroes will go into the courts as Governor Warfield refused to sign the bill passed and the legislators will sue out a writ of mandamus to compel the placing of the amendment on the official ballot next fall. The "Jim Crow" law is a work of this session, but will not go into effect for some time, and does not include through express from the North.

An Indefatigable Worker.

Mrs. George J. Head, of "The Hollies" near Bailey's Cross Roads, is one of the most indefatigable workers in a good cause of whom we have any knowledge. Although sick a good portion of the time during the past winter, she deposited in the National Bank of Fairfax, on Monday, \$114.85 to the credit of the John Quincy Marr monument fund. What she would have accomplished had her health not been impaired is beyond conjecture. She informs us that R. E. Lee Chapter Daughters of the Confederacy will give a festival in Odd Fellows' Hall, Falls Church, the last week in April for the benefit of the said fund, and that the Marr monument will be unveiled at Fairfax on the 1st day of June next with appropriate ceremonies. She deserves great credit for her energy and enthusiasm in the matter. —[Fairfax Herald.]

Virginia News.

Building operations in Richmond are at a standstill on account of a strike of hodcarriers.

Lewis A. Jones, a prominent citizen of King George county, was found dead in his bed on Saturday. He is survived by one daughter and five sons.

A petition was presented to the governor yesterday for an unconditional pardon for Theron H. Brown, the defaulting cashier of the Virginia Life Insurance Company.

Mrs. Poinsette Tayloe died at "The Laurels," Westmoreland county, a few days ago, in the seventieth year of her age, and was buried at Yeocomico church by the side of her husband, the late Col. Poinsette Tayloe.

Rev. A. E. Frisole, of Portsmouth, told the Baptist Ministers' Conference yesterday that he did not think women should wear hats in church any more than in a worldly theater and he had asked those in his congregation always to remove theirs.

The sixteenth session of the Virginia Summer School of Methods will be held again this year at the University of Virginia, beginning June 27th and continuing for six weeks. A fine faculty has been engaged. Professor Edward Howard Griggs, who was at the school two weeks last year, has been re-engaged for three weeks this summer.

Robert Bowles, colored, who two weeks ago shot and killed John A. Ruff, a white fireman on a Chesapeake and Ohio train near Clifton Forge, and escaped, was captured yesterday at Huttonville, and was taken to Lynchburg, for safe-keeping. There is much indignation at Clifton Forge over Bowles' crime and threats of lynching have been freely made. There was a large reward offered for the apprehension of the negro. Bowles has confessed to the officers. He states that he saw John Kennedy, the train wrecker, in the Alleghany Mountains.

DRUGGISTS MUST BE CAREFUL. Colonel John B. Purcell and Robert W. Powers, wholesale druggists, of Richmond, yesterday called upon Auditor Morton Maye and had a conference as to the construction of the law regarding the sale of liquor and the requirement to force all druggists handling whiskey bottles and preparations containing alcohol to obtain the regular licenses of retail liquor dealers.

Colonel Maye explained to the gentlemen that the law was plain and that he could make no ruling except what any business man would make. He gave no opinion in writing.

Colonel Purcell, when the conference was ended, dictated the following to The News Leader reporter:

"My understanding is that the auditor has no intention of interfering with any druggist in the legitimate conduct of his business. He has not and does not intend to instruct commissioners of the revenue to assess druggists as liquor dealers, unless they know or believe that the druggist is selling some article or preparation that will produce intoxication, and which is being used for any other than medicinal purposes.

"The auditor does not construe the law as classing proprietary or official medicines as liquor unless they are being used as such. Therefore, if any druggist should sell any alcoholic preparation that will produce intoxication, and the same is bought and used for that purpose, then the druggist is liable for violation of law in selling such goods without license. The determination of the facts must be at last with the jury. "I do not think that the auditor desires to make any change whatever in the rulings of his office for the last ten years on this subject.

This agitation has been brought about simply by his desire to break up any practices that may exist of druggists selling whiskey, brandy or other intoxicating drinks for other than medicinal purposes.

"In my opinion, if retail druggists will pursue their business in a straightforward, legitimate way, without attempting to evade the law, there will be no trouble.

"But if any druggists attempt to sell extracts of malt, medicinal bitters or anything that will produce intoxication to persons who they know are using it as a beverage, and not as a medicine, they will be liable to pay a liquor dealer's license.

"I would advise all retail druggists not to fill any prescription for liquors pure and unadorned."

Colonel Purcell explained that he desired to give all the facts to the papers for the guidance and information of the druggists throughout the State. That was the object of his visit to Auditor Maye, who gave the gentlemen all the facts, verbally, as he obtained them from a careful reading of the law. Colonel Maye, as stated above, gave no ruling in writing, depending wholly upon the construction of the law by each commissioner of the revenue. —[Richmond News-Leader.]

CONGRESSIONAL

Though the postoffice appropriation bill was before the Senate almost the entire day yesterday, the early debate on the measure was in relation to general land laws. Mr. Gibson, of Montana, denied that the proponents of the bill for the repeal of the desert land act and the commutation clause of the homestead act were proceeding at the instigation and in the interest of land-grant railroads. Mr. Gibson, aided by Mr. Quarles, of Wisconsin, made light of the charge that a lobby was maintained in Washington to fight for the passage of the bill. Messrs. Hansbrough, of North Dakota, and Warren, of Wyoming, took the other side of the question.

Considerable progress was made with the postoffice appropriation bill. Important amendments agreed to were those providing for the transfer of the free delivery service from the office of the Fourth Assistant Postmaster General to the office of the First Assistant Postmaster General, striking out the age limit for cars used in the railway mail service, and the restrictions placed upon first and second-class postmasters in the matter of telephone service.

In the House the military academy appropriation bill was taken up, and after Mr. Parker had explained its features, Mr. Goldfogle, of New York, spoke in behalf of the Jews of the United States, for whom he asked equal treatment and protection while traveling in Russia. Mr. Livernash, of California, made an attack on President Roosevelt, and Mr. Morrell, of Pennsylvania, discussed the negro question. Consideration of the bill was not concluded when the House adjourned.

Baltimore Conference.

The 120th Baltimore Annual Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church South held today its sixth day's session at the Southern Methodist Church. Devotional exercises opened the business, Rev. Dr. Cackley offering the prayer.

The minutes were read and adopted. The secretary of the board of statistics then read his report showing that the conference charges were in excellent condition.

The list of conference claimants was then read.

The disciplinary questions, heretofore unanswered, all formal ones were all answered and recorded.

Rev. Dr. Whisner then addressed the conference in relation to the church extension board. He said that there were in the whole church 3,000 congregations without a house of worship—88 congregations in this conference were without a house of worship. He urged that the church was overtaxed. The whole cost did not exceed \$2.50 per member. The collection for church extension this year will be \$700 in excess of last year.

The secretary of the board of missions then made his report, which was read and recorded.

Rev. Dr. Hutchinson reported that the question of alternates could not be settled at this conference and recommended an alternates' committee to report next conference.

The special committee reported in favor of three lay delegates to each district conference.

One minister said that there was no use for this and no time for it.

The report was laid on the table.

The number of Epworth Leagues was reported at 212, 164 senior and 48 junior leagues, with 9,013 members in all; 603 Sunday schools, 3,374 officers and teachers and 41,276 pupils—were reported as well as other statistics.

The report on temperance was submitted, urging that the "accursed liquor traffic threatens our civilization and the consecrated efforts of all Christians should be made against it," and advising district conferences to pay special attention to the local option agitation and pledge the church to total abstinence. The report was adopted.

Rev. Dr. Whisner then took the chair, the bishop retiring to consider with the presiding elders the question of the appointments of next year.

The Epworth League report was then submitted and the bishop having returned, took his seat.

Resolutions of thanks to the people of Alexandria, the pastors, the evangelical churches and the Business Men's League for accommodations furnished the conference were adopted by a rising vote.

Rev. Dr. H. M. Reed bade farewell to the conference. He goes to the southwest for his health.

Rev. Dr. Whisner submitted a preliminary report of the committee of sixteen.

Some time was spent in making arrangements and obtaining stock for the new conference paper, and then after an address by the bishop the bishop announced the conference appointments, and the conference closed with the doxology.

The appointments are as follows:

Baltimore District, W. H. D. Harper, P. E.—Baltimore City, Central, J. A. Anderson; Caernarvon, H. A. Brown; St. Pauls, H. A. Sherman; Wilkins Avenue, J. A. Tyler; Emmanuel, E. J. Ingle; Frederick Avenue, W. H. Best; Arlington, J. Wilson; Sudbrook, to be supplied; Fredon, J. W. White; Howard, J. H. Dulany; Langanore, J. Well; Frederick City, Wolfe; Brunswick, Geo. Hasel; Poolville, J. H. Davidson; Clarksburg, I. G. Michael; Gaithersburg, to be supplied; Rockville, W. J. Locke; Emory, O. C. Beall; Hyattsville, A. M. Cackley; Beltsville, J. F. Biggs; Laurel, F. A. Gains; Wesley Grove, J. W. Beall; J. H. Balthus student at Vanderbilt University; A. M. Cackley, conference mission secretary.

East Baltimore District, B. W. Bond, P. E.—Trinity, E. V. Regester; Calvary, Wm. Stevens; Taylor, W. D. King; North Point, to be supplied; West Hartford, T. R. Jacobs; Aberdeen, H. W. Burrows; Kent, I. Ryder; Goldboro, H. T. Baker; Hillsboro, G. B. Mays; Easton and Caroline, W. E. Henry; Trappe, H. M. Reed; Royal Oak and Tilghmans, H. A. Rule; Severn, C. W. Moon; Chesapeake, B. Travers; Calvert, to be supplied; Forest Grove, C. W. Mark; Prince Georges, J. H. Schooley; Charles and St. Marys, T. S. Nevitt; Student, J. P. Hupman.

Washington District, Rev. Dr. G. W. Duffey, P. E.—Mt. Vernon Place, F. J. Prettyman; Epworth, D. L. Blakemore; Marvin, J. H. Hally; West Washington, J. H. White; Da Ray, W. K. Ellison; Alexandria, J. P. Stump; Fredericksburg, J. H. Light; Falls Church, W. H. Wolfe; Leesburg, W. D. Dolly; Loudoun, W. D. Keane; Middleburg, W. G. Gover; Hillsboro, W. M. Waters; Hamilton, F. A. Strother; Warrenton, W. R. Ballenger; Bethel, to be supplied; Marshall, G. W. Staples.

Fairfax, J. W. Smith; Centerville, W. G. Hammond; Occoquan, W. B. Dorsey; Fauquier, C. W. Mark; Remington, D. Hardin; Sudley, S. B. Hildebrand; Manassas, to be supplied; Stafford, C. L. Potter; Morrisville, Homer Welch.

Winchester District, H. P. Hammill, P. E.—Winchester, C. D. Bulla; Frederick, W. R. Wolfe; Stephens City, H. A. Brown; Middletown, W. S. Hammond; Strasburg, W. L. Smith; Woodstock, B. F. Ball; Woodstock mission, to be supplied; Edensburg, J. L. Henderson; Front Royal and River-ton, G. D. White; Warren, L. Fox; Linden, L. Butt; Page, H. A. Wilson; White Post, H. L. Stevens; Berryville, G. N. Green; Princetown, D. F. Eutler; Martinsburg, C. D. Harris; Berkeley, P. C. Nevitt; Charlottesville, F. Cockrell; Jefferson, C. Sydenstricker; Bakerton and Halltown, J. K. Heydrick; Professor in University, J. A. Kern; Secretary of Education, H. P. Hamill.

Rockingham District, David Bush, P. E.—Staunton, I. W. Cantor; Staunton Mission, A. P. Boude; Harrisonburg, D. H. Kern; Bridgeville, W. J. Brown; Mt. Crawford, J. M. Anderson; Parnassus, M. P. Weller; Churchville, F. Farr; Augusta, S. A. Parker; Waynesboro, J. H. Smith; Basic, G. W. Gaidner; New Hope, O. E. Burgess; Port Republic, L. L. Harnsberger; Rockingham, H. M. Roane; East Rockingham, J. M. Kline; Elkton, S. K. Cox; Shenandoah, L. Jones; Marksville, B. F. White; Lary, W. H. Joyce; New Market, J. J. Ringer; Mt. Jackson, H. S. Coe; Fairfield, L. H. Echols; Goshen, L. B. Markwood; McDowell, M. P. Weikle; Monterey, L. A. Eustie; Crabottom, H. A. Murrill.

Roanoke District, J. E. Armstrong, P. E.—Roanoke City—Green Memorial, C. M. Hawkins; Trinity, H. M. Carter; St. James, L. H. Hunt; Grace, W. O. Talbert; Belmont, A.

S. Rudasill; Vinton, J. H. Boyd; Roanoke Circuit, G. O. Homan; Bethany, H. Q. Barr; Buchanan, J. E. Hammond; Fincastle, O. W. Lushy; Glen Winton, J. H. Bean; Eagle Rock, G. D. Kidder; Rockbridge, J. H. Henry; Lexington, J. Knott; Ellison, J. H. Hiley; Christiansburg, J. W. Grubb; Blacksburg, W. D. Keane; Newport, J. K. Gilbert; Newmarket, O. F. Burgess; Professors in Vanderbilt University, Rev. Collins Denny, D. D., and Rev. J. A. Kern, D. D.

Today's Telegraphic News

THE WAR IN THE FAR EAST. Port Arthur, April 5.—The English workmen who had been engaged in making repairs on the battleships which were damaged by the Japanese, have been put out of Russia, in conformity with the order recently issued by General Stoessel, who is in command of the forces here, expelling all foreigners. The only English person remaining is a female teacher, who is ill and whom Stoessel is nursing at his house.

Irkutsk, April 5.—The newspaper Vestochnoye Obozrenye says that Port Arthur is imperilled by the proximity of a Russian volunteer ship which is loaded with 250 torpedoes, each containing 240 pounds of the terrible explosive pyroxylene. The ship is anchored behind Electric Hill. The Japanese, continues the paper, have been informed by spies where the vessel is situated and have been instructed to aim their shells in that direction. Should one shell strike the ship, it would cause an explosion that would annihilate the whole town.

Liverpool, April 5.—The Post today commends the Japanese for their strict censorship of all news regarding the movements of ships and troops. The paper asserts that two officials of the Russian embassy read all the far Eastern messages printed in London papers and telegraph anything that is considered useful to St. Petersburg. Viceroy Alexieff, according to the Post, has already been benefited by information contained in the British and American press.

Tokio, April 5.—Confirmation has reached here of the report that the Japanese have entered Wiju, on the southern bank of the Yalu river. Koreans residing at Wiju informed the Japanese that the Russians on the upper reaches of the Yalu consist of but small parties.

Attempt to Escape.

Jefferson City, Mo. April 5.—A desperate attempt was made by about fifty convicts at the Missouri penitentiary, to blow up that institution early this morning, kill all the guards, who interfered and turn loose on Jefferson City some 300 criminals. One of the attaches of the prison named Williams armed himself with a gun and with the aid of others quelled the mutiny and prevented any of the prisoners from escaping. A search was made of the cell, and twenty pounds of dynamite were found, besides a bottle of nitro-glycerine, two revolvers, a box of cartridges, and a number of skeleton keys. The convicts had bored a hole through the plate on the lock on the inside of their cell and opened the door with a skeleton key, and the plan was to kill the guards, liberate the prisoners in that building, and blow up the building with nitro glycerine, and with the dynamite blow a hold in the walls and escape. It is not yet known how the convicts obtained the explosives and weapons.

Forced to Cancel the Deal.

Berlin, April 5.—The King of Saxony was recently placed, in an embarrassing position as the result of a demand by the public of Saxony for the erection of a new court theatre at Dresden. The king, who is extremely economical, declined to pay the cost of the new building, although the monarchs of Saxony have maintained the theatre since 1609. A millionaire tooth powder manufacturer offered to lend his majesty the money necessary, asking a merely nominal interest on the sum. The king accepted the offer, believing this to be an easy solution of the difficulty. The government, however, insisted on the king cancelling the deal, as they declared it would be a breach of monarchical etiquette for him to borrow money from a manufacturer. The monarch has now reluctantly accepted this advice.

Launching of the Virginia.

Newport News, Va., April 5.—In the presence of the Governor of Virginia and his staff, Assistant Secretary of the Navy Darling and many other distinguished guests, the magnificent new battleship Virginia was launched this afternoon, the little daughter of the governor, Miss Matilda Gay Montague, christening her and breaking a bottle of sparkling wine over her prow as the big vessel started down the ways.

The ship left the ways at 1 p. m. The event was successful in every respect. The only untoward incident was the death of a man named Calhoun from Richmond, who fell in the dry dock some distance from the scene of the launching. It is estimated that 50,000 people witnessed the ceremony.

Anti-Semite Riots.

Berlin, April 5.—Prominent Jews here have received a telegram stating that anti-semitic riots have occurred at Lompala, Bulgaria. The mob stormed the Ghetto and massacred six and wounded nineteen Jews. The telegram adds that many Hebrew houses at Saue had also been plundered. The mobs gave their excuse the usual rumor that ritual murders had been committed for passover sacrifices.

Destructive Fire.

Reading, Pa., April 5.—The fire at Ennass, seven miles from Allentown, which started last night, was gotten under control early this morning. The Casino hotel and theatre, a store and several stables occupying about two blocks, were destroyed. The cause was an oil tank exploding at 8:45 last night. The loss is about \$35,000, partly covered by insurance.

New York Stock Market.

New York, April 5.—The stock market while slightly irregular has generally maintained a strong tone, with a more pronounced tendency to improvement after the first hour.

The April number of the Southern Planter has been received from its Richmond publishers, and like all its predecessors, contain much valuable and interesting information.

An Aggravating Cough Cured.

A customer of ours who had been suffering from a severe cough for 6 months, bought two bottles of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy from us and was entirely cured by one and a half bottles of it. Give perfect satisfaction with our trade. HAYES-PARKER & CO., Lincolnton, Ala. For sale by Richard Gibson.

Fifty-Eighth Congress.

Washington, D. C., April 5.

SENATE.

The Senate today passed a bill granting 20,000 acres of interior public lands to the State of Minnesota, to be used for experimental forestry purposes.

Mr. Morgan called from the table a resolution which directs the Attorney General to report what negotiations he has had relative to the purchase of the property, rights, franchises etc., of the New Panama Canal Company.

Mr. Dioliver, in charge of the postoffice appropriation bill, endeavored to take him off his feet but Mr. Gorman, the minority leader, firmly secured the rights of the Senator from Alabama who began a discussion of the illegality of the purposes of the United States government to purchase rights on the Panama isthmus from the canal company. He charged that the new company had been organized for speculative and blackmailing purposes, that it was the same instrument for working fraud and injustice as its predecessor, and that it had suits in France to settle before it could legally dispose of its property. He charged that the delay to pay the republic of Panama the ten million dollars stipulated by the treaty, was unprecedented and due to some mysterious influence, and characterized that as the most humiliating spectacle in the history of the government.

HOUSE.

The House today in committee of the whole resumed consideration of the military academy appropriation bill.

Mr. Prince, a member of the military affairs committee, addressed himself to the merits of the bill.

Mr. Rainey attacked the ship subsidy proposition. He presented to the House a letter from the Cramp shipbuilding company favoring the importation, free of duty, of all material used in shipbuilding.

Mr. Wade attacked the beef trust and the administration for failure to proceed against it.

Mr. DeArmond attacked the republicans for inaction on matters of moment before the House. The majority, he said, has adopted a policy to do nothing but pass the appropriation bills. The reason for this, he declared, a desire to go into the presidential election without giving to the people a taste of their legislation.

Mr. Jones said that the way to correct the evil was to get rid of the government officials, who are responsible for the lack of enforcement of the law.

Mr. Grosvenor said when the republicans get ready the tariff will be amended.

Mr. Grosvenor turned his attention to the democratic candidates for President. He said they had no one who would be able to carry anything.

TELEGRAPHIC BRIEVITIES

The Akron Savings Bank, of Akron, O., closed its doors this morning. Hon. Wm. Buchtel, is President; Capt. Aaron Wagner is cashier.

Abram Bernstein was arrested in New York this morning and arraigned in court charged with the larceny of \$400 from Abram Hornstein, a Baltimore merchant.

Desperadoes last night, held up a car on the street railway line near Hubbard, Ohio, and robbed the conductor of \$20. Several of the passengers were relieved of small amounts. The men got away.

Fifteen blocks of the business portion of Tampa, Fla., were destroyed by fire yesterday afternoon. Two hundred tenements were consumed by the conflagration. The loss will exceed \$300,000.

Charles F. Steele, of Slater, Pa., committed suicide this morning by shooting himself on the grave of his wife who died six weeks since. Eight children survive, the eldest daughter of whom was married last night.

Shrinkage in deposits of more than \$500,000 in the past month followed by a run of frightened depositors, caused the failure of the Capital National Bank, of Guthrie, Oklahoma, Monday. The assets are \$1,250,000, while the deposits total \$1,033,000.

Albert Robbins, president, and Edward L. Robbins cashier of the Farmers Bank of Auburn, Ind., which closed its doors January 13, were arrested Monday on a charge of embezzlement and with receiving deposits after they knew the bank was insolvent.

In order that she may get photographs of the face of a man in the greatest agony for reproduction in a realistic painting, Mrs. Josephine Devol, an artist, of Morristown, N. J., has hired a man who will consent to have his hand mutilated while the camera acts.

Two sections of the lower free bridge across the Illinois river at Peoria, Ill., collapsed and fell into the river last night, carrying dozens of telegraph and telephone wires with it. No one was injured, as the structure had been closed to traffic, the recent floods having undermined two piers.

Miss Cora Boynton retired to her room in New York at a late hour last night. Upon being called today, she made no response, and the physician investigated and found the room full of gas, although the window was open. She had evidently turned off the gas and accidentally turned it on again.

For the benefit of soldiers wounded on the battlefields of the Russo-Japanese war, the art gallery of Mrs. Potter Palmer's residence in Chicago was last night transformed into a concert room, and filled with an audience of 650, which included almost all the society folk now in the city. \$450 was realized which will be sent to